

Campaign Signs on State Maintained Roads

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In August 2011, the NC General Assembly enacted into law Senate Bill 315 which permits the placement of campaign signs on state maintained roads. The new legislation takes precedence over the City's local sign ordinance with respect to state maintained roads. This means that political signs are permitted on state maintained roads with the following restrictions:

- (1) No sign shall be permitted in the right-of-way of a fully controlled access highway (i.e. I-77, I-85, I-277, I-485, etc.)
- (2) No sign shall be closer than three feet from the edge of the pavement of the road
- (3) No sign shall obscure motorist visibility at an intersection
- (4) No sign shall be higher than 42 inches above the edge of the pavement of the road
- (5) No sign shall be larger than 864 square inches
- (6) No sign shall obscure or replace another sign

The new law applies only to "campaign" or "political" signs and does not include any other type of sign. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) will be enforcing these new regulations. The time frame for permitted political signs on state maintained roads begins on October 1, 2011 and ends on the 10th day after the primary or general election. If you have questions about placement of political signs on state roads, please contact Lewis Mitchell at NCDOT (704-596-6900).

The City's Code Enforcement Division will continue to enforce Charlotte's sign ordinance for all other sign categories and on City maintained streets.

A map listing by specific location for state maintained roads may be accessed via <http://virtualcharlotte/> utilizing the transportation and state maintained streets layers.